

New York Tribune
First to Last—the Truth: News-Editorials—Advertisements—Member of the Audit Bureau of Circulations
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1919.
Owned and published daily by New York Tribune Inc., a New York Corporation. Office: 120 N. York St., New York City. Telephone: 100-1000.
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Daily and Sunday: \$3.00 per month, \$9.00 per quarter, \$27.00 per year.
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Entered at the Postoffice at New York as Second Class Mail Matter.
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War-Engendering Idealism
Nearly seven years have passed since Madero's murder and the seizure of power by Huerta, Mexico's Lilliputian.
The bloody Huerta went and the equally bloody Carranza came with-out discernible improvement. Mexico is still Mexico—has more bandits, life and property are less secure, the wretched peons work as hopelessly, as many children starve, and there is a marked increase in the savage hatred of Americans.
The President and the American people have shown the most patient idealism to Mexico. The President believed that if he did not relax his benevolent attitude our troublesome neighbor would be conquered by kindness. So Washington notified Americans in Mexico that they could not look for protection. In response American towns have been raided and their inhabitants butchered; soldiers on Mexican soil by the government's orders have been waylaid and slaughtered, and aviators and a consul have been kidnapped and held for ransom.
The President had faith in the professions of Carranza—believed him when he advertised that he sought to restore constitutional democratic government. He permitted him to get arms from our side of the border and backed him so ardently as finally to drive Huerta into exile. Then Venustiano not only bit the hand that petted him, which the President did not care much about, but set up a régime as autocratic and far less humane than those of Diaz and Huerta.
If ever idealism did not pay because of the behavior of the beneficiaries of the idealism, Carranza and his following furnished an example. The more we have done to deserve confidence and friendship, the greater has been Carranza's envenomed hatred. Why? No one has yet explained. It seems a case for scientists to investigate.
The pursuit of this mirage of idealism has steadily brought us closer to hostilities. Having immorally failed to escape a war which no one in this country wants, it seems time to try a mixture that has a little more realism in it—the realism, for example, of a pacific blockade or denial to Mexicans in this country of rights that Americans do not enjoy in Mexico. The exhortations of the Department of State seem vain. Perhaps Carranza can be induced to have more regard for the advice of Mexicans who see that Mexico will be wrecked if he is allowed to continue to display his Yankeeophobia.

A Contract Not a Contract

Mayor Hylan, recognizing for the first time the equity of the request for higher street railway fares, acknowledges it is hard to resist the pleadings of those who argue that "everything has gone up" except fares and point to the millions in good faith invested.
The Mayor heretofore has identified the companies as robbers and conspirators, and boasted he could make their business pay. Now his tone, which has reflected the color of the mind of Hearst, has changed. He is sorry for the companies, but a bargain is a bargain, and those who stood to win may not complain now that conditions are against them. He holds he has not the right to be generous, that allegiance to the obligations of his trusteeship requires him coldly to insist on the city's pound of flesh.
A contract is a contract, and if there was a flat contract to carry passengers for five cents the Mayor's position could scarcely be successfully assailed. But he might read the subway contracts again. He would find matter he now ignores, which shatters his case.

The Six-Hour Day

Baron Leverhulme, Great Britain's most distinguished soapmaker, in America to advocate the six-hour day, has been doing some figuring, and he shares the result with the American public.
He imagines a factory whose product is 1,000 items a week and which, aside from raw materials, has overhead expenses of \$5,000 a week and a pay-roll of \$5,000 a week for forty-eight-hour labor. The production cost would be \$10 an item.
Then he supposes the same factory went to a thirty-six-hour week with no increase in overhead, using two shifts of six hours each, and paying as much for six hours as before for eight hours, or \$10,000 a week. With no increase of speed or productivity per operative 1,500 items would be produced for \$15,000, or at the old cost of \$10 per item. The extra wage would come from the saving from a more intensive using of the plant.
But the baron further contends that it would be possible to make the wheels turn faster with a six-hour day, and that instead of 1,500 items there would be probably 2,000 items, and that, therefore, the cost for each item would fall to \$7.50, to be given to the public in lower prices,

collected from passengers the remaining three cents must come from the taxpayers. The 1920 budget appropriates \$7,000,000 for this purpose.

Here is an outstanding fact which the Mayor forgets and which others have little emphasized. But some day it must be faced. Hence it is pointless to assume that the companies, under contract to haul for five cents, can be successfully held to a bad bargain.

What is to be done? Obviously to bring together the Public Service Commission and the Board of Estimate, the city's contract makers, with representatives of the subway companies to negotiate, on the one hand, concerning ridding the city of the preference millstone and, on the other hand, the adjustment of fares to a compensatory basis.

This would mean to alter the contracts in two particulars, one in favor of the city and the other in favor of the companies. A great opportunity for the city to gain something substantial is offered, but so far attempts to realize from it have been defeated by the Mayor's refusal to consent to revision of the contracts.

The Mayor may be given credit for thinking he is standing for the protection of public interests, but in fact he is not. If it costs eight cents to carry passengers, then the city must pay the bill out of the public treasury, if the value of the service is not collected from passengers.

Dollars and Efficiency

Thirty years ago we had the first "Billion Dollar" Congress. The appropriations for 1890-'91 and for 1891-'92 ran slightly over a billion. A shout of protest arose. Speaker Thomas B. Reed answered it by coining the phrase: "This is a billion-dollar country."
For several years before the war we had, not billion-dollar Congresses, but billion-dollar sessions of Congress. The government had more than doubled its expenditures of the '90s, the years of the Spanish War excepted. Then the great war came and the lid blew skyward. For the first year of peace Secretary Glass's estimates total about \$5,000,000,000.

This figure includes \$1,000,000,000 for interest on the public debt—a part of which will be offset, either now or later, by interest on the loans made to our allies. According to Mr. Glass's calculations the army will cost \$1,000,000,000 and the navy about \$500,000,000.

More than half of our outlay is thus a direct legacy of the war, for the Shipping Board is asking \$448,000,000 with which to wind up its construction program. This sum will be recouped when the board's surplus ships are sold.

The army and navy charges cannot be reduced very rapidly in view of the warship construction now under way and of the necessary reorganization of the military establishment. The creation of a selective national reserve to supplement the standing army will be expensive. But it is a wise investment. The civilian administrative service, ever-expanded during the war, is the field in which Congress will have to exercise the "economy, avoiding parsimony," advocated by Mr. Mondell.

The United States is not afraid of being, even in peace times, a four billion country (that is, reckoned in Federal expenditure). The public cares for results rather than totals. But the vast machine of war time has shown inadequate results outside the military services, and, to a large extent, inside them. The people fought the war and won it without, and sometimes in spite of, government direction. A scientific budget will cut out a great deal of waste. This Congress would do something worth while if it studied expenditures critically and established a closer relation between cost and results. If we are to have, temporarily, a four or a five billion government let us at least see that it converts dollars into efficiency.

Not Butting In

Sir: I think it only just to William E. Johnson, the Anti-Saloon League of America, under whose direction he is working in England; the United Kingdom Alliance of Great Britain and the students who engaged in the prankish attack on Johnson to say several things:
First, Mr. Johnson is in England at the express invitation of the alliance and other "dry" organizations which are older than the Anti-Saloon League. Last summer a number of Englishmen, including clergymen, physicians and others, made a tour of the United States and Canada, looking at the results of prohibition and asking for the cooperation of American "drys." Sir C. W. Sastry, chairman of the British Birth Control Commission, earnestly asked the aid of the league in making the British Empire "dry." At Washington there was formed the World League Against Alcoholism, with English representatives present. One of the four presidents is Lieut. Jones, member of the British Parliament.
Second, while the "drys" of the United States are helping the "drys" of England, the "wets" of the United States are over there helping the "wets" of England. One, of course, has as good a right over there as the other.

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J. H. LARIMORE.
Westerville, Ohio, Nov. 21, 1919.

Their Next Demand

(From The Philadelphia Inquirer)
It seems strange that no union has as yet evolved a scheme to compel employers to pay monies and half time while they are on strike.

Overworked

(From The Philadelphia Press)
It appears from the record that the government deported two anarchists last year, and that may have fatigued it, so much as to justify a long rest.

or to the workmen in higher wages, with the factory owner profiting from a quicker turnover of capital.
An interesting, and to many an eye-opening, computation. But two questions suggest themselves. What is included in overhead, and how many industries have overhead expenses (exclusive of raw materials) that amount to one-half the value of the product?
The baron mentions, as included in overhead, interest on capital, salaries of partners and managers, repairs and renewals, depreciation, rent and ordinary taxes. It is thus his idea (since he assumes that overhead is not to go up, despite a larger operating day) that the salaried class are to work twelve hours a day while wage earners work but six hours; that machinery will not wear out more quickly if speeded for twelve hours instead of used for eight. Moreover, he must reckon among raw materials fuel, light, heat, etc., whose consumption is proportionate to working time.

On the basis of the foregoing there are few industries in this country with 50 per cent overhead expenses. Before the war American factories in gross paid out \$14,000,000,000 for raw materials, \$4,500,000,000 for wages, \$1,200,000,000 for salaries, and \$1,250,000,000 for capital charges. So the overhead in the average American factory is nearer 25 per cent than 50 per cent. Moreover, overhead is not stable. It costs more to borrow money, rent goes up, so do taxes and all miscellaneous expenditures, and salaries will eventually go up.

The figures of the baron are not as valuable as they seem at first glance. A saving can undoubtedly be effected by running plants for longer hours at higher speed, but probably not enough to offset a doubled wage cost, and if product per person employed goes down, of course real wages are certain to fall proportionately.

The Whole and the Parts

We print on this page an item of mathematics that has a larger bearing upon coal, upon strikes, upon Bolshevism, upon any attempted rule by a small and ambitious minority.
The problem of unrest has a unity that every one feels, whether able to put it in words or not. It is new in form and in its present life and death importance. The precise solution has yet to be worked out—a fresh and clearer conception of sovereignty must be conceived and formulated and applied.

Meantime, the proposition of mathematics elsewhere cited, contested and upheld offers as a pregnant suggestion of the truth that the parts of a whole never can exceed the whole in their sum. They never have and they never will. The whole is greater than any of its parts. Split the people of America into as many unions and soviets as you will; let each one assume to itself all the power and rights and threats that it will; not one of them, not all of them, can be greater than the nation of us all, whose rights are paramount and must prevail unless chaos is to supersede civilization.

This is old, old stuff, as old as Euclid, at any rate. Every now and then someone like our correspondent thinks that a trick has been found that will evade eternal truth. Compare the interesting case of Nicolai Lenin, of Petrograd, and his dictatorship endeavoring to run a nation for hand-workers only. But the truth sooner or later wins. In no state, especially in no modern state enjoying the advantages of specialized and complex industry, can any part be permitted to arrogate to itself power that threatens the lives and safety of the whole. If such a part does uprise the will of the whole must sooner or later assert itself, act for itself and down the part—as volunteer coal miners, working for the whole population of Kansas, are mining coal to-day.

Miss Froelich

Sometimes something happens to remind us that most people go contentedly about their life work, neither striking nor giving in to strikes, nor having nervous prostration, nor turning Bolshevist.
Such a one is Miss Ella Froelich, who has just completed fifty years as a teacher in Public School 3, in Greenwich Village, and admits having been happy through it all. "The boys kept me young," she answered simply when asked for the secret of her success, disdaining the evidence of thousands of her weaker sisters whom those same boys had driven to an early grave. The secret goes deeper than that, of course, and is found not in the boys (however extraordinary the brand produced by our best families in Greenwich Village fifty years ago), but in the soul of the little teacher herself.

Some women are born teachers and thrive on it; while others lose their bearings entirely in the terrible sea of discipline, red tape, low salaries, and "intellectual serfdom." The former are the teachers who brought zest to spelling lessons and Caesar's bridge, and infused the conquest of quadratics with a pride in self-reliance which the pupils remembered and carried over into the harder tasks of later years. They were the friends of every child in the class, good or bad, and respected and inspiring members of the community. Where are all those old-fashioned

school teachers to-day? Anning S. Prall, president of the Board of Education, mourned the passing of the inspired teacher in his speech at the celebration of Miss Froelich's golden jubilee. But perhaps he, like the rest of us, is getting the habit of hysterics. Perhaps if he looked around in the schools he would find more Miss Froelichs, contentedly growing gray in the service of their country. Where one phenomenon is found it is reasonable to expect others, however shyly hidden away. Perhaps if we encouraged them more, treated them with the gratitude due the devotees of a great profession, and paid them a little higher wage than we do bootblacks, we should find there are still modern young women who have the grace of character to be old-fashioned school teachers.

The Conning Tower

Horace—Odes, Bk. I, Ode 11
"Tu ne quaesieris—scire nefas—quem mihi, quibus tibi."
Ask not, Leuconoe, what end The future has for each one stored. Why all your energy expend Upon a lettered Oujia board?
Whether this winter is your last To skate and flit upon the ice, Whether more years the gods forecast, Endure what comes. Take my advice.
Forsake the fortune teller's tent, The spiritualist's seance. Upon to-day's enjoyment bent— On with the cabaret and dance!
L'L LIL.

There was a time when we considered Arnold Bennett's gift for realistic and graphic detail was egregious; but that was before we read the government's specifications for "50 chairs, kitchen; to be made of hard-wood; to have 1 1/4" thick splined-wood seat 15 1/4" wide by 15 1/4" deep; height of seat to be about 17" from the floor and joints in same to be multiple dovetailed and glued for their full length; 2 wire rods to run from seat through round and back. Chairs to have continuous bent-wood back 1 1/4" in diameter, strengthened by 5 turned spindles. Chairs to have 4 turned legs and to have turned stretchers, 2 at front, 2 at back, and 2 each side. Joints between bent-wood back and seat and between stretchers and legs in addition to being mortised and glued must be reinforced with screws. Joints between the turned spindles and bent-wood back and between spindles and seat to be reinforced with barbed-wire nails." "Gosh!" says J. D. C. "Think of the specifications for a piano!"

The Crime of Radicalism

It Began When Radicals Turned to Robbery and Revolution
To the Editor of The Tribune.
Sir: "Since when has it become a crime to be a radical?" The answer is easy. It is "since radicalism ceased to mean progress and became robbery, rape and bloody revolution."

We believe in government based upon the consent of the majority (leaving out of the accounting criminals and degenerates) and aimed at the preservation of life, liberty and human progress. Therein lies the only hope for any man, poor or rich. Your correspondent Lillie and his kind are preaching a doctrine that means the ascendancy of the criminal instinct of the worst elements of society. They must be suppressed by force if necessary. We have seen what they have done to Russia. Do we want them to succeed in the United States of America?

If they bring on a fight the consequences will be upon their own heads, and they will find that the mer who have worn Uncle Sam's uniform and trained under our great democratic military leaders will not be so easily frightened as were the so-called "training classes" of autocratic Russia.
ELISHA GARRESON.
Member of Rough Riders under Leon and Wood in '98; member of Headquarters Staff 10th Division, General Wood command, 1918.
New York, Nov. 29, 1919.

The Golden Rule at the Telephone

To the Editor of The Tribune.
Sir: Isn't it about time for all of us to try to help the telephone service of this city, instead of sitting back and telling the operators how "punk" they are and how "rotten" the service is? From the fact that the telephone company is advertising so extensively for help and offering apparently liberal terms, I feel sure it is doing everything possible to provide sufficient operators, but we must try to realize that even after it has got them it takes time to bring them anywhere near the efficiency point demanded by the New York public.
The constant harsh criticism hurled at them by persons calling for numbers must naturally make nervous wrecks of even the best-natured and most capable operators.
Let every one who reads this letter resolve that he will do his share toward sustaining the service by being tolerant and fair to the operators and to help alive the spirit embodied in the Golden Rule—to do unto others as you would be done by.
E. P. S.
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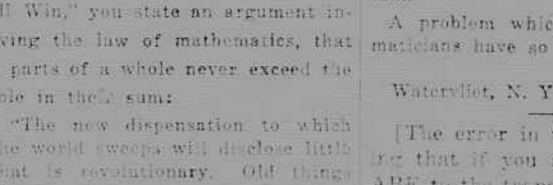
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Mathematics Wins

Wherein Euclid Roms In Ahead of Watervliet
To the Editor of The Tribune.
Sir: In an issue of last month, in your editorial headed "Mathematics Will Win," you state an argument involving the law of mathematics, that the parts of a whole never exceed the whole in their sum.
"The new dispensation to which the world sweeps will disclose truth that is revolutionary. Old things may be given new names, but they will be the old things just the same. Certain laws and principles are irrefragable. They don't argue they operate. They are simply so and cannot be made not so."
"There is the law of mathematics, for example, that the parts of a whole never exceed the whole in their sum. Quarrel with this law if so inclined; denounce it as unjust, envenom it with a world in which it does not exist; it is eternally true, back at you, undisturbed and undisturbable."
There is a catch in every law, even in this, which it may interest your readers to discover.
Take a sheet of paper eight inches square, cut it into two rectangles, (A) five inches by eight inches, (B) three inches by eight inches. Measure off on one eight-inch side of A five inches and on the other eight-inch side from same end three inches. Cut along line joining these two points, making two equal trapezoids. Then cut

along one diagonal of rectangle B, making two equal right triangles. Now fit the right triangles on the trapezoids, making two larger right triangles, which when fitted together will make one rectangle measuring three inches by five inches.
The area of the original sheet of paper, eight inches square, was sixty-four square inches; the area of the



suiting figure will be a triangle; that is to say, the apex F will fall on the intersection of AC prolonged and DJ prolonged. It won't.
Prolong DJ to intersect with AC prolonged at K. Then in the similar triangles KCD and KJF we have:
CD:BJ :: KC:KB
But CD = 3, BJ = 5 and KB = 5 - KC.
Hence:
3:5 :: KC:5 - KC
KC = 7/2.
But as the distance BF is by hypothesis equal to 5 the point F will not fall at K, but at a point on AC, half an inch further than K— which point let us call K'. Then it is clear that the line K'D does not coincide with the line KD, and the figure BK'D is a quadrilateral and not a triangle.
What's the matter with the mathematicians of Watervliet? E4.]

A Sage View of Treaties

To the Editor of The Tribune.
Sir: Permit me to pronounce the oligarchy over the peace treaty by quoting from the oracle and sage, Washington Irving, what, in my mind, seems most applicable and germane to the present occasion:
"Treaties at best are but complied with so long as interest requires their fulfillment; consequently, they are virtually binding on the weaker party only, or in plain truth, they are not binding at all. No nation will willingly go to war with another if it is nothing to gain thereby, and, therefore, needs no treaty to restrain it from violence; and if it have anything to gain, I much question, from what I have witnessed of the righteous conduct of nations, whether any treaty could be made so strong that it could not thrust the sword through—nay, I would hold, ten to one, the treaty itself would be the very source to which resort would be had to find a pretext for hostilities."
"Thus, therefore, I conclude that though it is the best of all policies

A Charge of Bad Faith

Does National Honor Bind Us to Accept Article X?
To the Editor of The Tribune.
Sir: The reservations to the Treaty of Versailles adopted by the majority of the Senate have been the subject of widespread discussion, but apparently one point has been entirely ignored. As this point involves the honor of the American people, the writer ventures to bring it to your attention. Much might probably be written about other phases of the question, but here the purpose is to concentrate on one point only. Article X of the covenant provides that "the members of the league undertake to respect and preserve against external aggression the territorial integrity and existing political independence of all members of the league." The reservation adopted by the majority of the Senate, whatever way its duplicitous meaning be construed, emasculates this article of the covenant to the verge of extinction.

As is well known, Article X of the covenant is of American origin and constitutes the kernel of the projected new world order. In the opinion of the writer, it is not sufficiently realized to what extent this policy is already binding in a moral sense upon the American people. In the negotiations that led to the armistice of November 11, 1918, it was agreed that the future peace should be concluded on the basis of President Wilson's address to Congress of January 8, 1918, and the principles subsequently enunciated by him. The last of the Fourteen Points provides that "the last of the Fourteen Points provides that a formal union of nations must be formed under specific covenants for the purpose of assuring mutual guarantees of political independence and territorial integrity to great and small states alike." This is virtually identical with Article X of the treaty, except that the guarantee stipulated here is a more definite obligation than is the mere undertaking to respect and preserve against external aggression of the present version.

It is well known that there was considerable opposition on the part of the government associated with the United States to accepting the Fourteen Points as the basis of the peace. In obtaining their acceptance America incurred a moral debt toward the enemy governments, and a definite obligation to carry into effect the fourteenth point. As soon as this point was made a definite agreement accepted as one of the basis of the peace, Article X of the treaty, which was a more definite guarantee, became morally binding upon the United States. Any attempt to nullify this obligation would be a breach of faith.

It cannot be denied that President Wilson was expecting the powers conferred upon him by the Constitution when this obligation was accepted. The nation that he accepted as the basis of the settlement was in general, and theoretically declared by the American people, a nation that he accepted as the basis of the settlement. He was not to be misled by the opposition. He was to be guided by the public opinion. He was to be guided by the public opinion. He was to be guided by the public opinion.

His Chief Ally

(From The Washington Evening Star)
When deportation is undertaken the average "Red" is thankful for the red tape.
DR. STAN A. MARDER.
New York, Nov. 29, 1919.

Our Present Prayer

(From The Toledo Blade)
Give us this day our daily sugar.
HISTORICUS.
New York, Nov. 28, 1919.